

Admitted Red Fired From UCLA Faculty

**Miss Davis Will Receive
Hearing; Court Test of
Regents' Decision Possible**

BY WILLIAM TROMBLEY

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SAN FRANCISCO—Angela Davis, a young Negro philosophy professor at UCLA who has acknowledged membership in the Communist Party, was dismissed Friday by the UC Board of Regents, pending a hearing.

After meeting for 3½ hours behind closed doors at the UC Extension Center Friday afternoon, the regents hurried to their cars without making any comment on the case.

However, reliable sources reported that Miss Davis has been dismissed from her position as an acting assistant professor of philosophy. According to the regents' procedure, however, she cannot be finally dismissed without a hearing.

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State Supt. of Public Instruction Max Rafferty told reporters after the meeting that "the lady concerned is being notified" of the regents' action by UC President Charles J. Hitch.

A UC spokesman said Hitch would make no statement on the case until at least Sunday.

Miss Davis' attorney, John T. McTernan, said in Los Angeles that she probably would have no comment until she had received formal notification of the regents' action.

As the controversy swirling around her mounted over the summer, Miss Davis had avoided public statements for fear of prejudicing her case.

Miss Davis, a brilliant student at Brandeis University and UC San Diego, was hired by the UCLA philosophy department last spring. She worked as a researcher at the Westwood campus this summer and, following a get-acquainted quarter in the fall, was to have begun her teaching duties in the winter quarter.

However, her membership in the Communist Party violates a regents' policy that no Communist will be hired on the faculty.

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REGENTS MEETING

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Miss Davis' hearing will be before a committee of the UCLA Academic Senate.

In 1950 the UCLA faculty voted to ban Communist Party members. This resolution never has been rescinded, but faculty spokesmen said Friday that attitudes have changed and they do not believe Communist Party membership would be considered grounds for dismissal now.

Miss Davis acknowledged her party membership in a Sept. 5 letter to UCLA Chancellor Charles E. Young.

She said she joined the party because she feels "an urgent need to find radical solutions to the problems of racial and national minorities in white capitalist United States."

Miss Davis also is an activist in racial matters, and she has the support of black students and faculty members at UCLA.

Before the regents took their action they heard in closed session from Robert Singleton, director of the Afro-American Studies Center at UCLA, who believes the firing of Miss Davis will be a devastating blow to blacks at UCLA and throughout the university generally.

Gov. Reagan, an ex-officio regent, told a news conference that the Amer-

ican Communist Party is not a political party but a "subversive organization."

"Membership in the Communist Party is a bar to teaching at the University of California," the governor stated.

Asked if this was not applying a political test to faculty hiring, a practice Reagan has said he opposes, the governor said no because advocacy of "communism with a small 'c'" is different from active membership in the American Communist Party.

However, legal sources indicated that no court in recent years has made this distinction. They predict that the regents' firing of Miss Davis will be reversed in the courts.

In another personnel case the regents decided to permit UC Irvine Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich Jr. to retain Mike Krisman, a 27-year-old former UCI activist as coordinator of academic advising in the office of the dean of students.

Krisman was active in Students for a Democratic Society as a UCI undergraduate. His appointment at Irvine has been opposed by various Orange County civic groups and service clubs and by Rafferty.

After the Friday closed-door regents' sessions Rafferty told reporters "the majority of the regents didn't go along with me" in his desire to get rid of Krisman.